

## Springfield receives more than \$6 million in MassWorks grants announced by Patrick Administration

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SPRINGFIELD — Projects in the City of Springfield were the beneficiary or more than \$6 million in MassWorks grants announced Tuesday by the Patrick administration, awards that he said he will lead to thousands of jobs and more than 2,000 housing units.

In all, \$66 million was awarded to 31 projects in 28 communities, he said.

The governor was in **Amherst for the release of the Massworks grants** and in Springfield earlier to announce **CNR Changchun's North American headquarters** will be in East Springfield. CNR won the bid to build new MBTA Red Line and Orange Line cars for Boston's subway system.

In Springfield, a MassWorks grant of \$4.2 million was awarded to advance the **Union Station** Regional Transportation project by supporting demolition costs, the installation of elevators, renovations to the second floor, as well as the addition of infrastructure needed for the new space.

A bus terminal and parking garage will be built on the site of the old baggage building while the Frank B. Murray Street property will be converted into parking for buses and other vehicles. The target opening is 2016.

U.S. Rep. Richard Neal, D-Springfield, issued this statement about the Union Station funding:

"I want to personally thank Governor Patrick for securing an additional \$4.2 million in state assistance for Union Station. He knows how important the successful completion of this project is to the region, and he knows it's a legacy issue for me. I urged him to commit more funds to expedite the revitalization of this historic structure and that's what he did during his visit to Springfield today. It's another major investment in the city's future," said Congressman Richard E. Neal.

Another \$2 million was awarded to the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency – Springfield Innovation Center – to rehabilitate two existing buildings to create the Springfield Innovation Center. The Springfield Innovation Center will be a 16,450 square-foot mixed-use space, which will include a 9,000 square-foot business accelerator with co-working, presentation and function space, as well as an innovation café.